Principal Statem

Satellite Operations

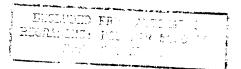
(S)-NRO Staff
OIC: Cdr. Franklynn R. Sperberg
Backup: Captain John S. Greene

Duty Subjects:

The Branch has as its primary objective the direction of the operation of the various orbital recommaissance systems for the collection of electromagnetic radiations. This branch interprets the intelligence requirements received from the USIB, programs the utilization of the various payload systems to most effectively meet these requirements within the capabilities of those systems, and oversees the delivery of the collection product in proper format to the various users for exploitation. In support of the primary objective, this branch makes recommendations and coordinates with appropriate activities and agencies as to payload design, scheduling, support equipment, and related subjects.

Action Items:

- a. Conducts analyses of the extent of collection relizable from orbiting SIGINT satellites.
- b. Prepares Reports Control Manual for approval of the Deputy for Satellite Operations.
- c. Conducts general pre-mission planning and coordination, including conduct of CPXs.
- d. Coordinates, when appropriate to the type mission(s) involved, the satellite recommissance missions with activities controlled by other organizations (such as peripheral recommissance, etc.).
- e. Maintains approved list of personnel to be notified of satellite reconnaissance operations, develops procedures for such notifications, carries out notification procedures as approved by the Director, (S) NRO.



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- f. Transmits satellite launch schedule information in accordance with the approved Reports Control Manual.
- g. Maintains mission following capability, as necessary, monitoring the general health of the system and the remaining collection capability and modifies original collection operations programs to compensate for changes in health.
- h. Establishes appropriate emergency tasking plan to assure quick reaction to intelligence reasons for changing tasking.
- i. Monitors the progress of the intelligence take and collateral data until it has been delivered to the intelligence community customers.
- j. In conjunction with the Intelligence Section, conducts analyses of degree of success of satellite missions in regard to coverage achieved versus coverage attempted and collates results. The Intelligence Section is responsible for final collation.
- k. Conducts post mission critiques to improve procedures and coordination.
- l. Maintains cognizance of the orbital status of all satellite recommissance vehicles in orbit, and records date and location of re-entry.
- m. Responsible for emergency action due to re-entry of satellite recommaissance vehicle in a location likely to provoke undesirable reaction or disclosure.
- n. Interprets collection requirements received from USIB and translates them into collection operations to optimize usage of available payloads.
- o. In conjunction with SS-6, prepares descriptions of operational aspects of each mission and distributes them to interested organizations for their planning.
- q. In conjunction with SS-6, makes recommendations as to design of future missions to meet collection requirements and achieve efficient operations. SS-6 has final responsibility for design.

